भारत और चीन के संयुक्त कार्यक्रम की बैठक

407. **श्री अजीत जोगी :** क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सीमा विवाद के बारे में भारत और चीन के संयुक्त कार्यदल की जो बैठक 1990 में आयोजित की जानी थी, वह हो चुकी है, और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका क्या परिणाम निकला है ?

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल मोरारका) : (क) जी हां, सीमा संबंधी भारत-चीन संयुक्त कार्यकारी दल का द्वितीय अधिवेशन और विदेश मंत्रालय के स्तर पर वार्षिक विचार-विमर्श नई दिल्ली में 30 और 31 अगस्त, 1990 को हुआ था ।

(ख) विचार-विमर्श के दौरान दोनों पक्षों ने सीमा के सवाल के समाधान के संदर्भ में एक दूसरे के दृष्टिकोण को ज्यादा अच्छी तरह समझा । दोनों पक्ष एक ऐसी व्यवस्था पर सहमत हुए जिसके अनुसार उनके सैनिक-कार्मिक समय-समय पर और उपयुक्त स्तर पर परस्पर मिलेंगे ताकि सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों में शांति बनाई रखा जा सके । दोनों देशों के बीच द्विपक्षीय संबंधों को और सुधारने के उपायों पर विचार-विमर्श हुआ तथा पारस्परिक हित के क्षेत्रीय और अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मसलों पर भी विचार-विनिमय किया गया ।

Affairs of MTNL

408. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering dissolution of MTNL due to its non-performance etc.;

(b) whether Government are aware that MTNL's rental and charges are the highest in the Third World and in line with or higher than countries like Norway; and

(c) whether Government are aware that MTNLs' services have not improved so far in spite of various measures taken ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PRAKASH): (a) No Sir, Government is not considering dissolution of MTNL due to its non-performance. However, a High Level Committee has been set up for recommending the most appropriate organisational structure in the Department of Telecom (including MTNL) keeping in view the operational and developmental needs of Telecom services and financial implications etc.

(b) There is no published data available for the telephone tariffs in all the Third World countries. As per the data available for tariffs in some of the important countries in the World, as on January 1, 1988, the telephone tariffs in India were at the median level and much lower than in many countries.

(c) No Sir, there has been significant improvement in the services in the areas under MTNL over the last 4½ years.

Traffic in Tuticorin Port

409. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the plans to provide additional facilities to increase the foreign and coastal traffic and to improve the container traffic in the Tuticorin Port; and

(b) whether Tuticorin Port Trust has taken steps to attract more international ships to its port and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) To facilitate increase in traffic certain additional facilities are contemplated in the 8th Plan. The 8th Plan outlay has not as yet been finalised. The facilities contemplated are: